

## CITY HALL IS SAVED BY U. S. BOY SCOUTS

They Expel Foe From Downtown New York With .22 Calibre Rifles.

### OFFICIAL THANKS GIVEN

Enemy Had Ripped Through All Defenders and Ruined Upper Districts.

At precisely 3:45 o'clock yesterday afternoon Secretary Teddy Rousseau in behalf of his boss, the Mayor, stood out in front of City Hall and officially thanked the United States Boy Scouts for having saved the dear old building and its contents, including the City Hall Reports Association, from annihilation by an enemy force that had ravished other parts of Manhattan Island.

Richly deserved was the grateful expression from Mr. Rousseau by the nearly 1,000 Scouts who stood at attention before him, breathing a little heavily but intact to the last fighting carapace after their expulsion of the foe from downtown New York. Off the plaza, through the side streets, presumably over the harbor, the invaders had been driven by an irresistible artillery consisting of a couple of quarter pounders supported by a number of .22 calibre rifles of the Scout infantry.

Few of the thousands of Saturday afternoon spectators gathered around the police lines around the park and trading from office windows understood what a feat was being accomplished by the modest soldiers. Here's an insider's explanation:

The theatrical army of the enemy had landed on upper Manhattan Island. The defensive force assigned to the city had its best but was inadequate. The enemy had ripped through the militia, the mobilized police and even the Mayor's Home Defence League. With the main body plunging its way toward a detachment had been sent down town to capture and destroy City Hall.

**Mayor in Despair**  
The troops who might have defended it if the enemy hadn't been so precipitate were gone. The Mayor was in despair. But through the gloom an inspiration came. The United States Boy Scouts (not to be confused with the other body, the Boy Scouts of America). They were drilled, they had khaki uniforms and even .22 Remington or air rifles, not to speak of the two quarter pounder cannon and two machine guns and a corps of girls—the Martha Washington Nurses. "Call out the Boy Scouts," ordered the Mayor, and the military portion of City Hall had been saved.

Brigadier General F. Walker Winch, chief of staff of the United States Boy Scouts, got the order at 2 A. M. He relayed it to his officers, who in turn flashed it down the line until all the scouts of Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens knew that they were supposed to be mobilized in their armories at 5 o'clock. Of course they were a lot of parents who dissuaded their infants from responding to the reveille, so the response wasn't all that great. Winch had hoped for.

But at the designs of nearly a thousand were in the armories—or what passed for such in Scotland—and being fed on coffee and sandwiches against the day's ordeal. At 11 A. M. they started marching toward City Hall, where at 2 o'clock in the afternoon Gen. Winch assembled war correspondents and photographers on the front steps to explain such details of the campaign as the censor could O. K. without enlightening the enemy.

**Five Bands of Music.**  
From Greenwich Village, Masepeth and Greenpoint in Queens and other parts of the city the defenders converged to appointed stations in Chambers street, Broadway, Main street and the Academy of Music and the park walks back of City Hall. They had five bands of field music with which to terrify the foe before the battle.

The two "machine guns"—rifles resting on regulation carriages—were dragged all the way from Masepeth by a battalion from that metropolis. Two of the bands performed in front of the hall while the other units were gathering. In one of their moments of inaction a fire engine screamed down Broadway. That nearly broke up the party. But returned in their places a thousand live kids, all the way from 16 years old down to veterans of the line not yet 9 who had to make up for the shortness of their legs by running when the enemy companies turned a corner—and a fire engine whanging past in the middle of a Saturday afternoon.

Fast twitched out of line, eyes wouldn't stay "front," no matter how the unit commanders bawled. It looked as if City Hall might never be saved unless a quick way could be found to remind the Scouts that their patriotism runs higher even than a fire engine.

Gen. Winch found it. He prodded the two bands of field music. They responded, every drum and pipe of them, with "Tanks a Lot" for the day. Winch was either that monty voice from Bunker Hill or the fact that the fire engine had snorted itself out of earshot that caused the brown ranks to get a new grip on their rifles and attend to the business of the afternoon.

**Business of Afternoon.**  
Which was as follows: When all the Scouts that were coming arrived, including a troop from near Dyckman street, whose leader had borrowed his best selling father's entire stock of three dollars' worth of candy and a few dollars' worth of soap to transport the feller downtown, the reviewing party assembled in the otherwise bare plaza in front of the hall.

Of course, the army had to be reviewed before it went to battle. This, no war correspondent was informed by Gen. Winch, is the regular thing for intra-day engagements. Theoretically yesterday's review was the last of the day and his staff, Mayor Mitchell and his staff, Lieut. Gen. Nelson A. Miles, U. S. A., chief of the National Guard, and his staff (most of the adult Scout officers having regular army or militia experience), Company by company the Scouts, of

assorted sizes but uniform zeal and serious purpose, filed the plaza and around through Main street and back to the plaza again until the units at the head of the column had been reviewed twice.

### Girl Scouts Also There.

With them were a company of Girl Scouts from Greenpoint; the nurses' corps were posted on the steps. Then most of the regiment stood at attention while the companies that were to bore into the enemy trotted out in front. Squad by squad the active infantry sprang across the plaza, thrusting their selves down to fire blank cartridges from their .22s, advanced again and fired again, retreated, then swarmed forward once more, until it was apparent to everybody that the dastardly invader had been pulverized. What was left of him was obliterated by toy cannon.

City Hall having been saved without the loss of a boy, Gen. Winch stepped forward and told Secretary Rousseau all about it. "You can tell the Mayor," he said, "that we're ready to do it again. Just call us up any time." Mr. Rousseau grasped his hand and found voice in the city's gratitude. The Scouts saluted, and the dastardly invader and a thousand youngsters who had learned a lesson in practical mobilization shot home to supper.

While the Scouts were still assembled 400 young men of the citizens' training corps which is drilling on Governors Island marched up Broadway from the Battery to City Hall. They carried wooden guns. They turned back through William and Spruce streets and disappeared down Park Row. They carried wooden guns. They turned back through William and Spruce streets and disappeared down Park Row.

**What Picnards Displayed.**  
Their leaders yesterday carried placards reading, "We want every American to have a rifle." And we want universal, compulsory military training." Their general, Lieut. A. O. Boyd, made a speech at the Battery soliciting recruits for the citizens' training camps, but pointing out that wooden guns, although the best that could be got from the Government for the citizens' training camps, are not prescribed by the latest army regulations.

The Boy Scouts of America, who are patriotic but do not carry guns, also were turned yesterday. Nine hundred of them bunched up to salute an American flag presented to the Bronx Zoological Gardens by employees when it was raised in Bronx Park. Major Gen. Daniel Appleton praised their appearance. Borough President Mathewson and Dr. Horaday made speeches. With the main body plunging its way toward a detachment had been sent down town to capture and destroy City Hall.

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## WAR VERSUS PEACE ISSUE OF ELECTION

Hot Fight Expected Over the Choice of Successor to Rep. Michael F. Conry.

### FOUR CANDIDATES TO RUN

Thomas F. Smith, Secretary of Tammany Hall, Said to Have Best Chance.

The special election April 12 in the Fifteenth Congressional district for the selection of a successor to the late Michael F. Conry promises not only to be one of the most interesting local political campaigns seen in some time, but also one of the most expensive. Four candidates will be in the race and it is estimated that it will cost the taxpayers at least \$25,000 to hold the election.

It is expected much bitterness will attend the campaign of the four candidates, and it is not unlikely that some rather turbulent scenes will be witnessed before the election. The principal issue on which the fight will be made will be war versus peace, and judging from past performances in the district the candidates who appeal for support as advocates of peace will have a rough time of it.

Thomas F. Smith, secretary of Tammany Hall, is the Democratic candidate, and has by far the best chance to win. The district is strongly Democratic and he is Mr. Smith's strongest supporter. He is a native-born American and will be his campaign slogan.

John N. Boyle, a lawyer with a good fighting record, will carry the Republican banner and will vie with Mr. Smith in advocacy of Americanism.

The two independent candidates are both pacifists and against the Washington Administration. John D. Moore, a gardener by profession, is backed by Jeremiah O'Leary and his crowd, which embraces the anti-English Irish circle. O'Leary, it will be remembered, lined up with the Republicans in the recent national campaign, but was later repudiated by that party.

Joseph D. Cannon is the candidate of the radical Socialist party, and will direct his campaign oratory against this country entering the war.

The Fifteenth Congressional district embraces four assembly districts. They are the Fifth, Seventh, Ninth, Twelfth, Fourteenth, Twentieth and Twenty-seventh, and in these there are eighty-seven election districts. There are about 20,000 registered voters in the district. At the last Presidential election 21,322 votes were cast, but it is not expected this many will be cast in the special election.

The polling places in the district were open yesterday for the registration of voters who have moved from one election district to another since the last Presidential election. Each polling place had to be manned by two Republicans and two Democrats at \$10 each, a total of \$40 to the polling place.

On election day the expenses will be even greater. In addition to the four clerks, who act on registration day, there must be two ballot clerks, two polling clerks and two inspectors, making ten in every polling place.

Combining the features of both days—registration and election—the expenses in each polling place, for hire and clerks, will be \$163, or for the eighty-seven polling places a total of \$14,181. Added to this must be about \$5,000 for printing and cards of election stations, and another \$5,000 for advertising in ten newspapers for two days. The fact that no schools can be used for polling places means that they will be crowded on election day means a considerable outlay that on regular election days could be saved.

Nominations must be filed with the Board of Elections before midnight tomorrow night. The Socialist candidate has already filed his nomination.

**SUED FOR BOARD OF CATS.**  
Jersey City School Teacher Owee \$102.50, Her Tenant Says.

Ralph Farrier of Westwood, N. J., has filed an action in the First District Court of Jersey City against Miss Mary E. Frasse, a teacher in Public School No. 3, Bright street, Jersey City, for \$102.50 which he says is due him for the board of cats from January 1 to March 1.

Farrier rented a year ago a place at Westwood owned by Miss Frasse. There were several cats on the place and Miss Frasse contracted with her new tenant to let them be. The number of cats increased until there were thirty on January 1. The S. P. C. A. took a hand then and the cat colony was reduced to six about March 1. Farrier asks pay to three cats for the month of March.

The case may come up Tuesday.

**FIRE THRILLS FIFTH AVENUE.**  
Boy With Cap Pistol Sets Window Shade Ablaze.

Laird Sturges, seven-year-old son of Albert H. Sturges, the steam railroad goods manufacturer, found a cap pistol in his home at 9 West Fifty-sixth street yesterday. In the absence of his nurse he fired it and set the window shade on fire. A spark ignited the window shade and in a moment it was aflame.

Passerby saw the fire and Engine Company No. 8 was sent around, but by the time the fire arrived servants had torn down the shade and stamped out the flames.

## REALTY MEN FEAR NEW BUILDING RULE

Woodbury's Opinion Authorizes State Board to Formulate Safety Code.

### MAY AFFECT BIG STORES

Owners Feel Stringent Regulations Are Likely to Cause Remodelling.

Owners and tenants of business buildings in New York, other than buildings used for factory purposes, are concerned over an opinion just handed down by Attorney-General Woodbury authorizing the State Industrial Commission to formulate a safety code for mercantile structures. Some are fearful that a set of rules will be drawn so stringent as to compel the virtual remodelling of some of the department stores and many office blocks.

The Attorney-General expressed his opinion in answer to an inquiry presented to him by the State Industrial Commission asking whether the authority of that body extends to mercantile establishments.

Mr. Woodbury quoted Section 20-B of the labor law as follows: "All factories, factory buildings, mercantile establishments and other places to which this chapter is applicable shall be so constructed, equipped, arranged, operated and conducted in all respects as to provide reasonable and adequate protection to the lives, health and safety of persons employed therein. The industrial board shall, from time to time, make such rules and regulations as will carry into effect the provisions of this section."

**No Doubt Entertained.**  
Mr. Woodbury proceeded: "Since the labor law does not itself attempt to set forth requirements for mercantile establishments (as it does in the case of factories), you are in doubt whether your power to make rules and regulations permits the commission to proceed alone in this field regardless of the absence of fundamental legislative requirements as to mercantile establishments."

"I have no hesitancy in concluding that the Legislature intended by the above language, when it conferred with Section 51a, to vest the commission with power to draft a safety code for mercantile establishments, and that such a delegation of power is constitutional. You will observe that the Legislature has provided the 'standard' by which the commission shall be governed; that the Legislature has provided that the rules and regulations must be such as require 'reasonable and adequate' protection to the lives, health and safety of persons employed in such establishments. Such rules would be subject to review by the courts in a proceeding by some person who had been ordered to obey them and who thought a particular rule not reasonable."

In general acceptance the term "mercantile building" applies to any building, other than a factory, in which a business of whatever nature, is carried on. With the formulation of rules by the Industrial Commission four separate departments will be in operation, each detached dwelling house, in which fewer than three families reside, will be exempt from regulation. Buildings housing more than three families, however, are included as tenements. The regulations now in force are those included in the tenement house law, the labor law and the existing building code. The Industrial Commission code will make the fourth.

**Under the New as translated by the Attorney-General the commission's authority is not limited to buildings yet to be erected.** Mr. Woodbury's letter concluded: "Your rules may apply to existing buildings as well as to buildings to be erected in the future."

Commenting on the probable effects of this opinion, the editor of a real estate journal said yesterday that they feared New York soon would be torn up as badly inside its buildings as its streets.

"I fear that what the Industrial Commission draws up its new code men will leave streets filled with excavations, only to enter mansions in which stairways are being remodelled and the floors and detached dwelling houses, in which fewer than three families reside, will be exempt from regulation. Buildings housing more than three families, however, are included as tenements. The regulations now in force are those included in the tenement house law, the labor law and the existing building code. The Industrial Commission code will make the fourth."

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**Officers of the Real Estate Board indicated an intention yesterday of calling a special meeting early this week to consider the situation.** The law prescribes that the commission shall hold public hearings before definitely formulating the regulations. The real estate body and various taxpayers' and property owners' organizations are preparing to be represented when the hearings on the proposed code begin.

**BLAZING GAS KILLS WORKER.**  
Five Others Hurt in Queens When Pipe Is Broken.

One man was killed and four seriously burned early yesterday when oil lamps ignited gas escaping from a broken main at Queens Boulevard and Fluke avenue, Winfield, Queens. The dead man is John Doyle, a laborer. Another man was injured in an automobile crash while racing for medical assistance.

The men were all employed by the Department of Water, Gas and Electric. A gas main had been broken and they were lowering a section of pipe to replace part of the old main. A block and tackle broke and the new pipe dropped on the old, breaking it. The gas struck the oil lamps and a burst of flame shot in all directions catching the nearest workers. Frank Reynolds, a chauffeur employed by the department, jumped into a department automobile and to race for help. A few blocks away he lost control of his machine and it swung off the road and crashed into a sand-bank, throwing him out and fracturing his skull and hip.

**Oil Production Increases.**  
The total amount of oleomargarine produced in the United States for the twelve months to February 28 last was 12,691,349 pounds, as indicated by Government reports of revenue stamp sales. More oleo was manufactured in the last five months than in any similar period in the history of the business.

BROOKLYN ADVERTISEMENTS. BROOKLYN ADVERTISEMENTS. BROOKLYN ADVERTISEMENTS. BROOKLYN ADVERTISEMENTS.

# ABRAHAM AND STRAUS

**The Abraham & Straus Private Subway Entrance**  
at Hoyt Street is quickly reached by Brooklyn Express, as follows, from  
Grand St. (Hwy) 51 min. 10th St. 25 min. Grand Central 17 min. Brooklyn Bridge 9 min.  
10th St. (Hwy) 44 min. 7th St. 23 min. 14th St. 13 min. Bowling Green 3 1/2 min.

**WEATHER FORECAST**  
Fair to-day  
and to-morrow  
with light  
breezes.

## The Very Tip of Spring

Easter epitomizes Spring; its coming marks the apex of it. This week is one of the best preparation; for people's Spring's plans are always pointed toward the great Spring festival, whether it fall early or late.

Naturally, this Store's Spring stocks are planned to reach their crest of completeness at the same moment. Style is here—the world's best. Quality is here—it is part and parcel of every bit of merchandise this Store offers for sale.

Variety is here—The Store Accommodating is essentially Metropolitan, and its stocks of Apparel, as well as of other things, reflect the broad viewpoint. But, of equal importance with all these, is the fact that this Store is

**A Power for Economy**  
in the minimum prices for which its cash-buying methods enable it to sell. And this Factor of Saving is of immense value to everybody just now.

Let the Store serve you, this coming week, when your needs are most urgent, as an earnest of the fact that the greater your requirements the more immediate its responsiveness.

**Monday's Offerings**  
168 Dinner Sets at 1 to 1.50.  
Suits of Lawn at 1.50 to 2.50.  
Rogers 1847 Silver-Plated Flat Ware at Closing Out Prices.  
Subway floor, Central Building.  
15c. to 18c. Curtain Scrim.  
10c. yard.  
Third floor, Central Building.

1.98 Navy Blue French Serge.  
1.45 Navy Blue Serge.  
Street floor, Central Building.  
1,000 Silk Petticoats, \$2.86.  
Second floor, East Building.  
\$2 and \$2.50 Corsets at \$1.29.  
Second floor, East Building.  
1.98 Navy Blue Serge.  
1.69 Navy Blue Serge.  
Street floor, West Building.  
New Nightgowns with Hand-Embroidered Initial, 86c.  
Second floor, East Building.

Crepe Kimonos with Bead of Flowers at Neck, 94c.  
Halt Entrance Street floor, Cen. Bldg.  
Men's 35c. Plain and Fancy Woven Scarfs, 29c.  
Street floor, Fulton St., East Bldg.  
Irish Damask Table Cloths, 22c. yards, \$3.59.  
Street floor, Livingston St., East Bldg.  
Women's \$4.95 Pumps, \$3.95 pr.  
Second floor, West Building.  
Children's Plaid Bloomer Dresses, 95c.  
Second floor, Fulton St., East Bldg.  
Milanese Silk Gloves, 50c. pair.  
Street floor, Court, Entr. Central Bldg.  
Women's Black or White Lisle Stockings, 24c. pr.  
Street floor, Fulton St., Central Bldg.  
Boys' Spring Coats, \$3.95 to \$9.75.  
Third floor, Second floor, East Bldg.  
36c. Willington Spool Cotton, black or white, 29c. doz.  
Street floor, Livingston St., Cen. Bldg.  
Orient Blend Coffee, 1 lb. can, 33c.  
Third floor, West Building.  
19c. A. & S. Pure Glycerine.  
15c. pr.  
Street floor, Livingston St., East Bldg.  
\$1.10 to \$1.29 Black Dress Nets, 98c. yard.  
Street floor, Central Building.  
23c. and 29c. Dainty Pearl Top Hat Pins, 19c.  
Street floor, Central Building.  
Manah's Muth and Dust-proof Bags, Business Suit Size, 54c.  
Subway floor, East Building.

Men's \$4.95 Black Galf Oxford, \$3.95 pr.  
Third floor, Men's shop, East Bldg.  
Hemmed Sheets 1 1/2 x 2 1/2 yds. of Bleached Muslin, 82c. each.  
Subway floor, West Building.  
Nainsook and Swiss Edgings, 19c. to 25c. Grades, at 15c. yd.  
Street floor, Central Bldg.  
Messaline Ribbons, 25c. yd.  
Street floor, center, East Building.  
Bates Zephyr Gingham at 16c. yd.  
Street floor, West Building.  
Women's 15c. Handkerchiefs, 9c. trifling defects.  
Street floor, Livingston St., Central Bldg.  
39c. and 75c. Stamped Linen Centerpieces, 21c. and 43c.  
Art Embroidery Store, second floor, West Building.  
Bed Spreads, \$1.98 to \$7.50 each.  
Subway floor, West Building.  
29c. Moltre Taffeta Percale, 18c. yd.  
Street floor, Livingston St., Central Bldg.  
Men's and Women's Umbrellas, 79c.  
Street floor, Fulton St., Central Building.

**Women's Spring Coats**  
at \$13.95 and \$24.95  
At \$13.95 are plaid velours in black or white or combined with purple or green. Serge and poplin Coats with fashionable stand-away pockets, stitchery, string tie belts.  
At \$24.95, burella Coats, charmingly shirred. In green, amber, soldat blue. Gunburi Coats, serges, plaids, gabardines, taffeta, failles; silk compose Coats.  
An all-embracing collection of the most approved Coat models for Spring. Sizes 34 to 44.  
**Very Special! Top-Coats at \$10.95**  
Effective models in chevron, poplin, serge, Black, blue, tan, apple green, Copenhagen, checks. Sizes 34 to 44.  
Second floor, Central Building.

**Women's Tailored Suits**  
at \$15, \$19.75, \$24.75  
Each Suit an exceptional value—and a style selected from scores submitted for choice.  
Smart-looking models in the newest phases of pleating. Box, side or inverted. Braid-bound, simple tailor-mades. Mannish Suits with the sports note.  
The materials—serge, poplin, gabardine, tweed, wool Jersey. The colors—navy, black, sand, gray, rose, olive, honey. The custom-tailored appearance of every Suit—a special point of pride. A full size range, 32 to 44.  
**Extra! 135 Women's Suits, \$9.95**  
Black or navy poplin or shepherd checks, in a group of favorite Spring styles.  
Second floor, Central Building.

**Oriental Rugs, Small and Medium Sizes**  
A Superb collection, its very atmosphere potent with the mysterious charm of the Far East, will delight the lover of Oriental Rugs. New purchases, including hundreds of rugs secured at very advantageous prices.  
**Shirvan Rugs \$22.50 to \$29.50**  
Closest woven in very choice designs and colorings. Average sizes 5 1/2 x 3 ft.  
**Mosul & Guendje Rugs \$21.50 to \$29.50**  
Serviceable rugs that will stand any amount of wear. Average sizes 5 1/2 x 3 ft.  
**Shirvan and Daghestan Rugs \$35.00 to \$50.00**  
Finely woven in all-over and geometrical designs. Average sizes 5 1/2 x 3 1/2 ft.  
**Daghestan, Dozar and Sarouk Rugs \$65.00 to \$150.00**  
Exquisite representations of the rug weaving art. Average sizes 5 1/2 x 3 1/2 ft. and 7 x 4 ft.  
**Antique Khiva Rugs \$19.50 to \$29.50**  
Rich, deep red and mahogany tones. Average sizes 3 1/2 x 2 1/2 ft.

**Shirvan Mats \$15.00 to \$19.50**  
Beautiful, rich and lustrous. Sizes 2 1/2 x 2 ft.  
Third floor, East Building.

**Kazak and Mosul Rugs \$35.00 to \$50.00**  
Splendid deep pile, and closely woven. Average sizes 5 1/2, 3 1/2 and 6 1/2 x 4 ft.